

REMARKS:

Claims 1-12, 14-17, 20-35, 37-40 and 43-50 are presented for examination. Claims 20 and 43 have been amended hereby. Claims 13, 18, 19, 36, 41, 42, 51 and 52 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Notice is respectfully taken of the Examiner's renumbering of misnumbered claim 51 (i.e., the last of the previously pending claims) as claim 52.

Reference will now be made to the abstract. It is respectfully submitted that, as recommended by the Examiner at page 2 of the prior Office Action, the abstract had been changed to be more descriptive of the invention recited in the claims (the changes to the abstract were made in the "AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION" section of the December 28, 2005 Amendment).

Since it appears from the Examiner's comments in the current Office Action that the changes to the abstract made in the December 28, 2005 Amendment were not entered, the changes are repeated in this Amendment (again, in the "AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION" section).

Regarding the Examiner's repeated assertion that the specification needs to be amended to include a "Brief Summary Of Invention," it is again respectfully submitted that the relevant rules and regulations indicate that the specification should include such a "Brief Summary Of Invention" but not that the specification must include such a "Brief Summary Of Invention".

Nevertheless, in order to expedite prosecution of the application a "Brief Summary Of Invention" paragraph is hereby being added to the specification (again, in the "AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION" section of this Amendment).

Reference will now be made to the language in claims 18 and 41 directed to a plurality of intermediary servers. It is respectfully submitted that such language is, in fact, consistent with independent claims 1 and 26 because these independent claims recite "an intermediary server" (which, of course, does not exclude use of one or more additional servers).

Nevertheless, in order to expedite prosecution of the application claims 18 and 41 have been cancelled hereby (without prejudice or disclaimer).

Regarding the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and 35 U.S.C. 103, applicant has previously set forth a number of arguments as to why the invention (as claimed) is considered to be patentably distinct over the cited references.

However, given that the January 27, 2006 Office Action is in the nature of a Final Rejection, it appears that reiteration of those arguments would not be particularly helpful at this point.

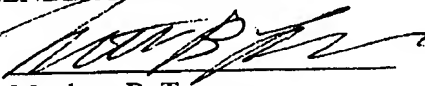
Rather, applicant would direct the Examiner's attention to the amendments made hereby, which are intended to reduce the number of outstanding issues as a prelude to expediting any future prosecution (e.g., to reduce the number of outstanding issues if an appeal is taken).

Accordingly, entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested (in this regard, the Amendment is fully supported by the originally filed application and thus, no new matter has been added).

The Examiner's attention to this matter is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
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